



DAVIS COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Davis County Courthouse Complex
PO Box 618
Farmington, Utah 84025

For Immediate Release:
Monday, June 12, 2006
DCHD NR 2006-019

Contact:
Bob Ballew
Public Information Officer
Office: (801) 451-3501
Cell: (801) 510-5710

Administration

Lewis R. Garrett, M.P.H.
Director of Health
Courthouse Annex
50 East State Street
Tel: (801) 451-3343
Fax: (801) 451-3242

Environmental Health Services Division

Delane D. McGarvey,
M.Ed., E.H.S.
Associate Director
99 South Main St.
Tel: (801) 451-3296
Fax: (801) 451-3122

Family and Community Health Services Division

Sally Kershnik,
R.N., M.P.A.
Associate Director
Courthouse Annex
50 East State Street
Tel: (801) 451-3315
Fax: (801) 451-3144

News Release

Car Seat Inspections Offered

(Layton, Utah) – Safe Kids Davis County offers free car seat inspections at Smith's Food and Drug Center, 2353 N. Main, Sunset, on Wednesday, June 21st, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

The Sunset Fire Department and Clinton City Police Department host the inspections.

According to studies, children are 3.5 times more likely to be seriously injured in a car crash because the majority of car seats are installed incorrectly or are not used. "This event is being held to raise awareness about the importance of properly restraining your children on every car ride," said Jeri Boren, Safe Kids co-coordinator and a health educator with the Davis County Health Department. "During the inspection, parents will have the opportunity to talk with a nationally certified child passenger safety technician. The technician will assist them with the setup of their car seats in their own vehicles."

Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death to our children. "Utah law requires all children under the age of 5 to be properly restrained in a child safety seat," said Lewis Garrett, director of the county's health department. "The law is good, but a gap in the requirement exists between children who are too big for a car seat and too small to fit an adult-sized seat belt properly."

- MORE -

Page 2 of 2 – Car Seat Inspections Offered

Booster seats can prevent serious injuries caused by poorly fitted seat belts when parents prematurely move their children from car seats to just seat belts. A booster seat raises a child up so that the lap and shoulder belt fit them correctly. Booster seats generally hold children between 40-100 pounds.

Safe Kids Davis County encourages parents or caregivers to bring along their kids with the car or booster seats and the vehicle's owner manual. This is so the car seat technician can teach the proper adjustments based on the height and weight of each child, Boren said.

For more information on child passenger safety or Safe Kids Davis County, call 451-3395.

- END -